

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 2, 7-10 and 13-15 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lighting device comprising:
a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate;
a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate; and
a polarization separation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit, for transmitting linearly polarized light in a first polarized direction and reflecting linearly polarized light in a polarized direction normal to the first polarized direction,

the light source unit including a pillar-shaped light guide which light exits at a first side surface, a spot light emission source disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and a reflecting layer disposed on a second side surface of a prism surface opposed to the first side surface for reflecting light from the spot light emission source, where said reflecting layer is shaped to correspond to said prism surface and is comprised of one of a metal film or a multi-layer film.

2. (Currently Amended) A lighting device according to claim 1, comprising comprising:

a phase modulation element disposed between the light source unit and the polarization separation element.

3-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A lighting device comprising:
a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate;
a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, which emits
said light source unit including a prism surface for emitting linearly polarized light; light
from said light source unit without the use of a polarization separation element; and
a phase modulation element disposed between the light guide plate and the
light source unit.

8. (Currently Amended) A lighting device according to claim 7,
wherein
the light source unit includes a spot light emission source and a pillar-shaped
light guide, where said pillar-shaped light guide includes said prism surface, and
the spot light emission source is disposed on the end surface of the pillar-
shaped light guide, and light exits the pillar-shaped light guide at a first side surface.

9. (Currently Amended) A lighting device according to claim 8,
~~wherein the~~ wherein a second side surface opposed to the first side surface is a surface is
said prism surface.

10. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
a liquid crystal panel;
a lighting device including a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate, a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, and a polarization separation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit, for transmitting linearly polarized light in a first polarized direction and reflecting linearly polarized light in a polarized direction normal to the first polarized direction,
the light source unit including a pillar-shaped light guide which light exits at a first side surface, a spot light emission source disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and a reflecting layer disposed on a second side surface of a prism surface opposed to the first side surface for reflecting light from the spot light emission source.
source, where said reflecting layer is shaped to correspond to said prism surface and is
comprised of one of a metal film or a multi-layer film.

11. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 10, comprising a first phase modulation element disposed between the light source unit and the polarization separation element.

12. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 10 or 11, comprising a second phase modulation element disposed between the liquid crystal panel and the lighting device.

13. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
a liquid crystal panel;
a lighting device including a light guide plate in the shape of a flat plate, and
plate;
a light source unit disposed on the side of the light guide plate, which emits
said light source unit including a prism surface for emitting linearly polarized light, light
from said light soure unit without the use of a polarization separation element; and
a phase modulation element disposed between the light guide plate and the light source unit.

14. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 13, wherein

the light source unit includes a spot light emission source and a pillar-shaped light guide, where said pillar-shaped light guide includes said prism surface, and the spot light emission source is disposed on the end surface of the pillar-shaped light guide, and light exits the pillar-shaped light guide at a first side surface.

15. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 14, ~~wherein the~~ wherein a second side surface opposed to the first side ~~surface is a~~ surface is said prism surface.